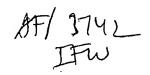


O4-18-05 EV 317349796 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on April 15, 2005, with sufficient postage as first class mail (including Express Mail per MPEP § 512), and addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Kelly K. Burris, Registration No. 46,361

Application No.:

10/652,755

Filing Date:

08/29/2003

Applicants:

David A. Tathan

Group Art Unit:

3742

Examiner:

Mark H. Paschall

Title:

GAS FLOW PRE-CHARGE FOR A PLASMA ARC

TORCH

Attorney Docket:

9858-000359

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 8, 2005, please amend the

application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.